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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER

CHEUNG, MARY DA ZHI WANG

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3621

DATE MAILED: 10/04/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/882,177

Applicant(s)

SEO ET AL.

Examiner

Mary Cheung

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 July 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 9-27 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on 18 June 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 8/23/2004.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. This action is in response to the election of the restricted claims filed on July 23, 2004. Claims 1-27 are pending. Claims 22-24 are amended. Claims 1-8 are elected with traverse. Claims 9-27 are not elected, thus they are withdrawn from consideration.
2. The applicant's argues that although the restricted claims differ, the claims are closely related in the same field of the technology. In the Election/Restriction mailed June 25, 2004, Examiner has clearly shown that different class/subclass searches have to be performed due the differences of each group of the claims; thus, it is burden to the examiner to examine all claims at once, and the restriction is proper.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-2, 4-6 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yeates et al., U. S. Patent 5,644,782 in view of Kullick et al., U. S. Patent 5,751,997.

As to claim 1, Yeates teaches a database updating apparatus comprising
(abstract):

- a) a computer network (Fig. 1);

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- b) a server which provides database-related information through the computer network (column 2 lines 5-30 and Fig. 1);
- c) a user computer which accesses the server through the computer network and retrieves the database-related information, wherein (column 2 lines 5-30 and Fig. 1): the user computer comprises an optical disc recording/reproducing apparatus which records data in or reproduces data from an optical disc (column 2 line 31 – column 3 line 10 and Figs. 1-2).

Yeates does not specifically teach that the optical disc comprising a database and a date and time of a last update of the database are recorded, and which is programmed to transmit the date and time of the last update to the server and to record modified/updated data, which is transmitted from the server, on the optical disc; and the server is programmed to determine if modification/update of the database recorded on the optical disc is needed based on the transmitted date and time, and to transmit the modified/updated data to the optical disc recording/reproducing apparatus. However, Kullick teaches a computer device comprising an optical disc, the optical disc comprising a database, the computer device transmitting the date and time of the last update information of the database regarding the optical disc to the server (*is interpreted as the primary and second storage device in Kullick's teaching*) and to record modified/updated data, which is transmitted from the server on the optical disc; and the server is programmed to determine if the modification/update of the database recorded on the optical disc is needed based on the transmitted date and time, and to transmit the modified/updated data to the optical disc recording/reproducing apparatus

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(column 5 lines 3-61 and column 7 line 9 – column 8 line 38 and Figs. 1-4C). Kullick does not specifically teach the date and time of the last update information of the database are recorded on the optical disc. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to allow the date and time of the last update information of the database to be recorded on the optical disc because this would transmit all the necessary information from the optical disc (i.e. database, date and time of the last update) to the server at once; thus reducing the complexity of multiple transactions. Furthermore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to allow the optical disc in Yeates' teaching to include a database and a date and time of a last update of the database are recorded, and which is programmed to transmit the date and time of the last update to the server and to record modified/updated data, which is transmitted from the server, on the optical disc; and the server is programmed to determine if modification/update of the database recorded on the optical disc is needed based on the transmitted date and time, and to transmit the modified/updated data to the optical disc recording/reproducing apparatus as taught by the modified teaching of Kullick for efficiently updating and centralizing information between an optical disc and a server.

As to claims 2 and 5-6, Yeates further teaches the optical disc has a reproducible region and a recordable region, and the optical disc recording/reproducing apparatus records modified/updated data transmitted from the server in the recordable region (column 2 line 24 – column 3 line 10 and Figs. 1-2; *specifically, "reproducible region" corresponds to Read-Only Memory Device 274, and "recordable region" corresponds to*

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“Read-Write Auxiliary Memory device 276 in Yeates’ teaching”). As to claim 2 and 6, Yeates does not specifically teach the recording date and time of the last update in the recordable region. However, Kullick teaches recording the date and time of the last update (Figs. 3a-3b). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to allow the date and time of the last update to be recorded in the recordable region so that the updating information can be better verified and audited.

As to claim 4, Yeates teaches a method of updating a database comprising: permitting a user computer usable with a recordable disc, on which is recorded a vendor database, to access a server of the database vendor through a computer network, recording modified/updated data if modification/update is needed; and recording the modified/updated data on the recordable disc (column 2 line 5 – column 3 line 10 and Figs. 1-2). Yeates does not specifically teach receiving a date and time of a last update of the database recorded on the disc from the user computer and determining whether modification/update of the database is needed. However, Kullick teaches a user computer comprising an recordable disc, the recordable disc comprising a database, receiving from the user computer a date and time of the last update information of the database regarding the recordable disc and determine whether modification/update of the database is needed (column 5 lines 3-61 and column 7 line 9 – column 8 line 38 and Figs. 1-4C). Kullick does not specifically teach the date and time of the last update information of the database are recorded on the recordable disc. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to allow the date and time of the last update

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information of the database to be recorded on the recordable disc because this would transmit all the necessary information from the recordable disc (i.e. database, date and time of the last update) to a server at once; thus reducing the complexity of multiple transactions. Furthermore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to allow Yeates' teaching to include the feature of receiving a date and time of a last update of the database recorded on the disc from the user computer and determining whether modification/update of the database is needed as taught by the modified teaching of Kullick for efficiently and securely updating and centralizing information between a recordable disc and a server.

As to claim 8, Yeates teaches a server for providing information related to a database installed in a user computer through a computer network, the server comprising (abstract): a database server which stores modified/updated data of the database (Fig. 1); and a transmitting unit reads the stored modified/updated data and transmits the modified/updated data if an update of the database installed in the user computer is needed (column 2 line 5 – column 3 line 10 and Figs. 1-2). Yeates does not specifically teach an update and time inputting unit which receives a date and time of a last update of the database installed in the user computer from the user computer which accesses the server through the computer network, and an update determining unit which determines whether an update is needed in the database installed in the user computer by comparing the date and time of the last update input by the user with the date and time of update stored in the database server. However, Kullick teaches receiving a from the user computer a date and time of the last update information of the

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database installed in the user computer, and determines whether an update is need based on the date and the time of the last update received from the user computer and the date and time of updated stored in the database server (column 5 lines 3-61 and column 7 line 9 – column 8 line 38 and Figs. 1-4C). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to allow Yeates' teaching to include the feature of as taught by Kullick for efficiently and securely updating and centralizing information between a user computer and a server.

5. Claims 3 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yeates et al., U. S. Patent 5,644,782 in view of Kullick et al., U. S. Patent 5,751,997 in further view of Alloul et al., U. S. Patent 6,032,130.

As to claims 3 and 7, Yeates modified by Kullick teaches the server transmitting information, which is received from the user computer, to the user computer and the optical disc recording apparatus records the information on the optical disc as discussed in claims 1 and 4 above. Yeates modified by Kullick does not specifically teach the information is a purchase order. However, Alloul teaches electronic transactions involve purchase orders (abstract). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to allow the information in the teaching of Yeates modified by Kullick to be a purchase order for expanding the usage environment of the database updating apparatus; thus attracting more clients to use the apparatus.

Conclusion

6. Examiner has pointed out particular references contained in the prior arts of record in the body of this action for the convenience of the applicant. Although the specified

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citations are representative of the teachings in the art and are applied to the specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested from the applicant, in preparing the response, to consider fully the entire references as potentially teaching all or part of the claimed invention, as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior arts or disclosed by the examiner.

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Grisar et al. (U. S. Patent 5,778,383) discloses dynamically caching and constructing software resource tables.

Itami et al. (U. S. Patent 6,011,764) discloses an optical disk includes a user accessible area having plurality of blocks and flag data.

Gauvin et al. (U. S. Patent 6,061,686) discloses updating a copy of remote document stored in a local computer system.

Kaneko (U. S. Patent 6,088,703) discloses a material storage unit copies material to supply buffer units corresponding to a play list.

Kern et al. (U. S. Patent 6,463,501) discloses maintaining data consistency among updates across groups of storage area using update times.

Suzuki (U. S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2002/0004402 A1) discloses an update notification system.

Matsubara (JP 62283470 A) discloses area management system for optical disk medium.

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Inquire

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mary Cheung whose telephone number is (703)-305-0084. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday – Thursday from 10:00 AM to 7:30 PM. The examiner can also be reached on alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Trammell, can be reached on (703) 305-9768.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-1113.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceedings is assigned are as follows:

(703) 872-9306 (Official Communications; including After Final
Communications labeled "BOX AF")

(703) 746-5619 (Draft Communications)

Hand delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Plaza Two, Room 1B03.

Mary Cheung
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 3621
September 27, 2004

